

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

One surface of a stimuable phosphor sheet supported at a position for image recording is exposed to radiation, and a radiation image is stored on the stimuable phosphor sheet.

5 Image readout is performed from the side of the other surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet supported at the position for image recording. Energy remaining on the stimuable phosphor sheet is then released by irradiating erasing light to an entire area of the stimuable phosphor sheet with a sheet-shaped erasing  
10 light source, which has uniform transmissivity to radiation and is located close to the one surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet supported at the position for image recording.